

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of April 28 - May 2, 2008**

1. **Traffic Calming Test (Ward 6):** The Traffic Calming Test is scheduled to start in the New Hampshire Gardens Neighborhood on Friday, May 2. There are two test plans, each of which will be set up for two weeks. This project is coordinated by Housing and Community Development Office and implemented by the Public Works Department. The tests were designed with community input at numerous meetings regarding traffic calming in the neighborhood. *(Public Works)*

2. **Electronics Recycling:** The annual Electronics Recycling Event is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm behind the Library. All computer components, TV (non console type only), radios, cell phones, stereos, and other small electronic equipment will be accepted. The event is sponsored by the Public Works Department and all material will be processed by Subtractions, Inc. *(Public Works)*

3. **Gear Up For Safety a Success!** The kick off to safe kids week last Saturday in the City parking lot was a great success with an estimated 250 people in attendance. 60 bicycle helmets and 40 bicycles were given away. Organized by the Montgomery County Safe Kids Coalition and Takoma Park Safe Routes to School program, the police, fire and rescue services and others worked together to educate families on many safety issues. *(Housing and Community Development)*

4. **Tenant Organizing Campaign Initiated (Ward 6):** The Police Department's C-Safe Program and the Housing Department's Tenant Capacity Building Program have combined their efforts in the Lockney and Kennewick Avenue section of Takoma Park, to assist residents in forming a tenant group that can address issues of common concern. Flyers announcing the effort were mailed to rental properties this past week and a door to door follow up will start this weekend. Please call 301-891-7222 for further information. *(Housing and Community Development)*

5. **"Reflected Glories: Trees in Sligo Creek" Exhibit Opening Reception - Friday, May 2:** The opening reception for Julius Kassovic's exhibit - "Reflected Glories: Trees in Sligo Creek" - will be held on this Friday, May 2 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Atrium Gallery at the Takoma Park Community Center. "As a photographer, I have tended to look for beauty in unexpected places. While beauty in Sligo Creek is hardly unexpected, the images that form and dissolve at the surface of the water are endlessly astounding and delightful." The reception is free and open to the public. The exhibit can be viewed throughout the month of May. *(Housing and Community Development)*

6. **Takoma/Langley, Long Branch and Sligo Area Neighborhood Planning Meeting Update - Wednesday, May 7 (Wards 2 and 6):** The public is invited to a briefing and short discussion of upcoming projects including upcoming sidewalk studies, density, the purple line, and the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Sector Plan. Speakers include the Transportation Land Use Connection program and the Sector Plan team. This meeting is a starting point for the discussion regarding land use and infrastructure improvements related to the purple line station. The meeting will be at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 7 at the Zion Lutheran Church on Holton Lane. *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. **Bathroom Poetry Project - Thursday, May 8:** If you enjoy the unconventional, please join us in the women's bathroom at the Takoma Park Library on Thursday, May 8

at 7 p.m. as we kick off the "Bathroom Poetry Project", an exploration of poetry in non-traditional spaces. Listen to the work of local poets and learn more about the project and how you can get involved. For more information, check out the project's website at <http://bathroompoet.net/Project.htm> (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. First Time Home Buyer Class (Spanish Speakers) - Saturday, May 10, 2008: A First Time Home Buyer class that will be conducted in Spanish will be held on Saturday, May 10 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. If you plan on becoming a homeowner in the next year or so, now is the time to learn how to be a "smart buyer". Those attending this free class will receive a certificate of completion that can be used when applying for low interest loans that are available through the county and the state. (*Housing and Community Development*)

9. Long Branch Stream Valley Sector Plan Meeting - Tuesday, May 13 (Wards 2 and 6): Walk the Long Branch Stream Valley and make short and long range planning recommendations for the master plan update included in the Takoma/Langley Sector Plan. Meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13 at Carroll Avenue and Long Branch or at 7 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church at 7410 New Hampshire Avenue (south of Holton Lane). For more information, please contact Ilona Blanchard at 301-891-7205. (*Housing and Community Development*)

10. Foreclosure Prevention Class - Wednesday, May 14, 2008: If you are feeling the pressure of a mortgage that will be readjusting within the next year, now is the time to check out the new refinancing programs that are being offered by the State of Maryland. On Wednesday, May 14, from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, a class will be held to bring you up to date on these programs as well as help new homeowners stay out of financial trouble. Those interested in attending can call 301-891-7222 to register or e-mail LindaW@takomagov.org. (*Housing and Community Development*)

11. "Colorful Abodes" Exhibit: Stop by the Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery on the main floor of the Takoma Park Community Center and take a moment to enjoy "Colorful Abodes", a collection of photographs of the bright and beautiful houses that can be found throughout Takoma Park. The exhibit features the work of local photographer Don Olson, the "Takoma Dragon." (*Housing and Community Development*)

12. "Assemblages and Collages" Exhibit: Discover the art of "Assemblages and Collages" - a three-dimensional artistic composition made from putting together found objects of different forms. The creations of Katie Dell Kaufman's students will be on display in The Corridor - between the Library and the Computer Learning Center - in May. (*Housing and Community Development*)

13. Update on Public Arts Project - Triumphal Arch: The Arts and Humanities Commission, after a careful review of potential sites for the installation of the recently selected public arts project, is recommending that the piece be located in Ward 4, at the SE corner of Maple Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway. Staff is working to secure the required authorizations from Montgomery County, which owns the property, and will provide periodic updates on their progress. Additional information on the piece can be found online at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agenda/items/2008/040708-2.pdf>. (*Housing and Community Development*)

14. HCD Staff attend Green Building Training: Code Enforcement staff attended a course, "Green Building for Building Professionals", given by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) on April 28 and 29. Green building principles, codes, and environmental issues relating to safe and sustainable building practices were discussed including strategies for incorporating green building principles into homes with out increasing the cost of construction and renovation. A committee of industry members of NAHB are preparing the National Green Building Standard, a document anticipated to be approved by the American Standard Institute (ANSI) this summer for use in guidance and rating buildings with regard to green acceptability. (*Housing and Community Development*)

15. Officers in Meetings:

- On April 29, CSAFE staff attended the Maryland Transportation Administration Transit Center Open House. The meeting covered the intended plans for the Transit Center in the Takoma Langley Crossroads that will bring various pedestrian safety improvements to the neighborhood.
- Also on April 29, in coordination with Impact Silver Spring, CSAFE staff coordinated a Renter's Exchange Program in Hampshire West Apartments in Silver Spring. Eleven renters from the community attended and received various tips about managing their finances.
- On April 30, CSAFE staff attended the Multi-jurisdictional Pedestrian Safety Committee Meeting; and, Lt. Richard Bowers attended a meeting with Montgomery County personnel regarding E-Citations.
- On May 1, there will be a planning meeting for the annual National Night Out event in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. Please contact Gretchen Hilburger at gretchenh@takomagov.org if you are interested in attending this meeting. (*Police*)

16. Officers in Training:

- On April 28 through 29, various police personnel attended training entitled "Automated External Defibrillator (AED) & CPR training re-certification class.
- On April 29 through 30, Crime Analyst Kyleen Luy attended E-Justice Records Management training.
- Also on April 29, Lt. Richard Cipperly attended MILES/NCIC Re-certification training in Columbia. (*Police*)

17. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 180 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four (4) vehicle impounds and three (3) arrests.

During the week of April 25-30, 2008, the following details were completed

April 25, 2008

- Maple Avenue and Ritchie Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued four (4) warnings and one (1) Equipment Repair Order (ERO).
- Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (No Right Turn) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued two (2) warnings.

April 29, 2008

- 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued three (3) speeding violations, one (1) state citation and six (6) warnings.
- Takoma Avenue and Buffalo Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued two (2) state citations and one (1) warning.

- 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) speeding violation, two (2) state citations and three (3) warnings.
- Holly Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and no citations were issued.
- 4th Avenue and Poplar Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued two (2) state citations, one (1) Equipment Repair Order and seven (7) warnings.
- Wildwood Avenue and Anne Street (stop signs) - conducted a two (2) hour detail and issued three (3) state citations and four (4) warnings.

April 30, 2008

- Erskine Avenue and 13th Place (stop sign) - conducted a two (2) hour detail and issued two (2) state citations and issued six (6) warnings.
- Lincoln Avenue and Elm Avenue (one way street sign) conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.
- Maple Avenue and Ritchie Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.
- Kentland Avenue and East West Hwy (violations of official signs) - conducted a two and a half (2 ½) hour detail and issued eight (8) state citations and one (1) warning.
- 7600 to 8300 block of Flower Avenue (speeding) - conducted a two (2) hour detail and issued five (5) speeding citations and two (2) warnings. *(Police)*

18. Moms and Caretakers: Mocha Moms and Cappuccino Caretakers had 25 participants and 13 caretakers visit the drop-in program on Tuesday, April 29. The children and caretakers participated in the playgroup that meets once a week on Tuesdays, from 10:45a.m. - 12:00p.m. *(Recreation)*

19. What's on City TV?:

- City TV crews attended last Saturday's Gear Up for Safety event at the Community Center for a future Snapshots episode.
- Saturday, April 26th City TV aired the Azalea Awards live, with replays scheduled for May. It is also available for viewing online here:
http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=64. *(City TV)*

20. Opening Reception: City TV crew will be covering the Opening Reception on Friday Night for the newly opening "Reflected Glories" photography exhibit sponsored by the Arts & Humanities Commission. *(City TV)*

21. Soap Box Derby: On Sunday, May 4, City TV is sending crew to the Soap Box Derby and the Historic Home and Garden Tour. *(City TV)*

22. FY09 Budget: The City Manager's Proposed FY09 Budget is now completely posted to the city website at the following link:
<http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/finance/fy09/proposed/index.html> *(City TV)*